

WRIGHT BREAKS RECORD; LATHAM FALLS INTO SEA

Within Sight of Goal Frenchman Fails on Day American Scores Triumph.

PRESIDENT LEADS
CROWD IN CHEERING

On Scene of Last Year's Disaster
Orville, With Lahm as Pass-

Twelve Minutes, Cover-
ing Fifty Miles or
More.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 27.—A few hours after a daring Frenchman, Hubert Latham, within sight of his coveted goal, fell badly injured, into the English channel, the world's aeroplane record for two men, as to both time and distance was broken this evening. A beautiful flight of one hour twenty minutes and forty seconds—upwards

fifty miles and at a speed averaging about forty miles an hour—by Orville Wright, at Fort Myer, with Lieutenant Frank P. Lahm, of the army signal corps, as passenger. The original record was made last year at Le Mans, France, with Professor Painleve, of the French Institute, as passenger, by his brother, Wilbur, joint inventor with him of the machine in which both achievements were accomplished. This epoch-making trip lasted one hour and

"You just scotched your brother record without really doing it."

"That's all we meant to do," replied Orville, with a smile, which his brother appreciatively duplicated.

President Leads Cheering.

The cheering which heralded the setting of a new mark in the conquest of the air was led by President Taft, who had sat, an intensely interested spectator, throughout the flight, and who insisted at its conclusion upon personal

This success was all-important to the Wrights, in that it completed the first of two crucial tests of their machine imposed upon them by the United States government—the so-called "endurance test," which required them to remain one hour continuously in the air with one passenger. Orville did nearly thirteen minutes better than that, and could have kept on much longer—three hours and a half, they

limit fixed by the gasoline capacity of the supply tank.

Sister's Word of Praise.

Weather permitting, the other test that for speed, will be made to-morrow, when Orville is to take Lieutenant Benjamin Foulois, of the Signal Corps, on a cross-country flight to Alexandria and return, a total of ten miles, over a measured course, and at a speed that must average forty miles an hour.

an hour. Orville could have made that flight this evening, but it was almost dark when he at last alighted after an air journey that would have carried him almost twice across the English Channel.

Poignancy was added to to-day's achievement of Orville Wright by the realization by everybody present that upon his last attempt to navigate the air with a passenger, that passenger

Lieutenant Selfridge, was killed, and the inventor was himself terribly injured. His devoted sister, Miss Katherine Wright, who nursed him through the period of his recovery from the disaster, anxiously watched him to-day from the doorway of the shed where the aeroplane is kept, and when he returned to her, gripped him eagerly by the arm, nestled her face against his breast, and said: "Bully for you, brother."

ther! It was beautiful!"

President Enthusiastic.

It is a question whether this word of praise was not more to Wright than that which came a few minutes later when the President of the United States, who had waited for him at the other end of the great parade ground took him warmly by the hand, and with the other grasping that of his brother, Wilbur, said:

"I congratulate you heartily sir. I was a great exhibition. You beat the world's record."

"Yes, sir," replied Orville, evidently embarrassed. "I beat my brother's record."

The President and everybody in the crowd about joined in the laugh at this sally.

"How did your passenger conduct himself? Did he talk to the motorist?"

"He behaved very well," replied the aviator.

"Well, I congratulate both of you and I thank you for the privilege of witnessing such a flight," added the President, and again shaking hands with the brothers, he entered his automobile and rode away amid cheers.

Nervousness Soon Passed.

"I was nervous at first," said Orin.

ville, after his flight. "You know that was my first attempt with a passenger since—since last year. The machine gradually settled itself and I felt sure as if I had been swung at the end of a string, with no such problem as direction or elevation or speed to solve. I could hear Lieutenant Lahm at first, but the terrible racket of the motor soon deadened my ears, and we abandoned all attempts at conversation."

didn't intend to land as abruptly as I did, and was trying some low flying. I misjudged the elevation, and before I knew it we struck the ground. I could have remained up another hour or so, but there was no necessity. I am satisfied with the flight, and with having surpassed my brother's record.

Previous Records.

Before his achievement of to-day the best that Orville Wright had been able to accomplish, with an additional passenger aboard, was nine minutes and one-third seconds. This was his